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STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



# REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the Year 1942.

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STANLEY :  
ALEX. McKINLAY, PRINTER,  
1943.



STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.  
REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
for the year 1942.  
(STANLEY and TANFIELD SECTIONS).

STANLEY,  
March, 1943.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,  
I beg to present to your Council my report on the Stanley and Tanfield Sections of the Stanley Urban District for the year 1942  
First I shall submit the figures for the whole of your area, and afterwards deal separately with those two sections for which I am responsible.

WHOLE DISTRICT							STATISTICS.		
Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,658	
Population (Estimated mid-1942)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45 330	
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,200	
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£186,999	
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£673	
LIVE BIRTHS—							Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	412	373	785
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	14	27
							—	—	—
							425	387	812
							—	—	—
BIRTH RATE : 17.91.									
STILL-BIRTHS—									
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	15	31
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
							—	—	—
							16	15	31
							—	—	—
RATE (per 1000 total births) 36.77.									
DEATHS	...	...	...	...	...	...	295	251	546
CRUDE DEATH-RATE : 12.04									

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 Total Births
Puerperal Sepsis	2	2.37
Other Puerperal Causes	1	1.18
	3	3.55
	—	—

Death-rate of Infants under 1 Year of Age.

All infants (per 1000 live births)	54
Legitimate infants (per 1000 legitimate live births)	54
Illegitimate ( „ „ illegitimate „ „ )	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	76
„ „ Measles (all ages)	3
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	4

The following Table compares the **Various Rates** for the Stanley Urban District with those for the County of Durham, per 1000 population :—

	County.	Stanley.
Birth-rate	17.6	17.91
Death-rate	11.5	12.04
Zymotic Death-rate	0.26	0.22
Scarlet Fever	0.00	Nil.
Diphtheria	0.10	0.07
Enteric Fever	0.002	Nil.
Measles	0.01	0.07
Whooping Cough	0.02	Nil.
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0.10	0.09
„ (over 2 years)	0.02	Nil.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.49	0.44
Non-Pulmonary „	0.12	0.04
Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy	0.71	1.26
Influenza	0.09	0.18
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)	54	54
Maternal Mortality Rate ( „ total births)	3.57	3.55



**Birth-rate, Death-rates and Analysis of Mortality** during the year 1942, for  
England and Wales, and the Stanley District

	England & Wales.	Stanley.
BIRTH-RATE ... ..	15.8	17.91
DEATH-RATES :—		
All Causes ... ..	11.6	12.04
Enteric Fever ... ..	0.00	Nil.
Smallpox ... ..	Nil.	Nil.
Measles ... ..	0.01	0.07
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0.00	Nil.
Whooping Cough ... ..	0.02	Nil.
Diphtheria ... ..	0.05	0.07
Influenza ... ..	0.09	0.18
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ..	5.2	0.09
Under 1 year (per 1000 live Births) ... ..	49	54
Maternal Mortality (per 1000 Total Births) ... ..	2.01	3.55

The next Table gives the **Causes of Death** of Male and Female Residents  
for the year 1942

	Males.	Females.
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	1	—
Diphtheria .....	2	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	12	8
Non-Pulmonary „ .....	1	1
Syphilis .....	1	—
Influenza ... ..	5	3
Measles ... ..	3	—
Encephalitis .....	1	1
Cancer ... ..	36	40
Diabetes ... ..	5	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ... ..	32	23
Heart Disease ... ..	70	62
Other Circulatory Diseases .....	9	7
Bronchitis ... ..	11	13
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	15	13
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	4	1
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum .....	3	2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years).... ..	4	—
Appendicitis ... ..	1	2
Other Digestive Disorders .....	8	6
Nephritis ... ..	12	11
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	—	2
Other Maternal Causes ... ..	—	1
Premature Birth ... ..	5	4
Congenital Malformation etc. ....	4	12
Suicide ... ..	1	1
Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	2	1
Other Violent Causes .....	14	12
All Other Causes ... ..	33	22
	<hr/> 295 <hr/>	<hr/> 251 <hr/>

### IMMUNISATION.

In the Stanley and Tanfield sections of your area I estimate the child population (1 to 15 years) to be 7,500. At the end of 1942, 5,176 children had been immunised—1,142, 1 to 5 years, and 4,034, 5 to 15 years. This represents 69% of the child population, compared with 53% at the end of 1941. Whilst I cannot expect 100% I should like to see a further improvement on the present figure.

During the past year there were 64 Diphtheria notifications under 15 years, and of these 27 proved to be negative. There were therefore 37 true Diphtheria cases of children, and of these 7 had been immunised. 3 deaths occurred, and these 3 children had not been protected.

With the figure of 64 notifications (under 15 years) in mind, I again append the cases of similar age notified in the 6 years preceding the introduction of immunisation in my two sections:—

1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
<hr/> 170 <hr/>	<hr/> 130 <hr/>	<hr/> 165 <hr/>	<hr/> 193 <hr/>	<hr/> 212 <hr/>	<hr/> 164 <hr/>

## WATER.

Last year the water supply was satisfactory both in regard to quantity and quality.

## SEWERAGE.

The approved schemes for the new sewage disposal works to deal with the sewage from North Stanley, South Tanfield, Annfield Plain and Craghead are still held up. The existing works have been kept going with the limited amount of material available.

Other Sewage works are giving satisfaction.

## SCHOOLS.

It was not necessary to close any of the schools on account of infectious diseases.

## STANLEY SECTION.

As the demand for coal exceeds the supply the main industry of the district was kept busy during the year. This is reflected in the amount spent on able-bodied relief by the Public Assistance Committee which again shows a reduction. The cost in 1937 was £2,429, in 1938 £728, in 1939 £648, in 1940 £548, in 1941 £296, and last year £102.

The total payments were: Ordinary Relief £18,458; Able-bodied Relief £102—a total of £18,560.

The figures for the past 10 years are given for comparison :—

1942	....	....	....	£18,560 (increased population)
1941	....	....	....	£23,285 (    „    „    )
1940	....	....	....	£37,134 (    „    „    )
1939	....	....	....	£43,960 (    „    „    )
1938	....	....	....	£42,922 (    „    „    )
1937	....	....	....	£41,781 (    „    „    for $\frac{3}{4}$ of the year)
1936	....	....	....	£41,131
1935	....	....	....	£38,460
1934	....	....	....	£36,508
1933	....	....	....	£35,746

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The following is a summary of the good work done by the Stanley and District Nursing Association during the past year :—

	Cases Attended.	Visits paid.
Medical	80	2,923
Surgical	182	3,344
Maternity	61	1,055
Midwifery	250	4,253
	<hr/> 573	<hr/> 11,575

Nurses employed : 1 General, 4 Nurse Midwives.

## Hospitals.

There was no change in the accommodation provided.

## Ambulance Facilities.

There was no change in 1942.

## Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The only change is the addition of a Scabies Clinic & Treatment Centre, which has been functioning for  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the year with good results.

# PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives a **Summary of Cases notified**, and compares 1942 with the 9 Preceding Years.

Disease.	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Diphtheria .....	83	46	112	108	138	117	147	131	178	155
Erysipelas .....	12	15	11	16	22	16	14	17	24	16
Scarlet Fever ....	85	61	57	41	94	43	47	62	225	372
Enteric Fever .....	1	—	—	1	1	3	3	7	7	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	4	7	3	1	5	3	6	5	8
Puerperal Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	2	2	6	3	4	5	1	7	1	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	18	22	27	23	20	25	13	15	11	19
Other Tuberculous Diseases	14	13	11	25	26	17	13	9	14	19
Pneumonia .....	27	39	43	24	29	32	27	17	18	37
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ....	11	19	5	—	—	—	—	2	3	1
Dysentery .....	—	2	7	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles .....	217	131	434	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	3	33	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	474	387	730	251	335	263	268	274	489	629

The next Table gives the **Age Period, etc.**, of cases notified in 1942.

Disease.	Under 1 Year.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and Over	Total	Hospital
Diphtheria .....	—	2	5	5	7	19	16	14	13	1	1	—	83	83
Scarlet Fever.....	—	3	2	7	11	45	8	2	5	1	1	—	85	56
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	1
Pneumonia .....	—	2	2	2	2	2	—	2	4	3	7	1	27	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Measles .....	19	21	24	29	35	82	4	1	1	1	—	—	217	—
Whooping Cough .....	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	9	—	12	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	3	—	2	1	11	10
Enteric Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals													442	159

## TUBERCULOSIS.

	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female	Male.	Female	Male.	Female	Male.	Female.
Under 1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 Years	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5-15 "	2	—	3	2	—	—	—	—
15-25 "	3	4	3	1	3	4	—	—
25-35 "	1	—	1	—	1	2	—	—
35-45 "	1	2	3	—	—	—	1	—
45-55 "	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55-65 "	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	11	7	10	4	6	6	1	—



## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

	Cases			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	Notified	Treated					
		At home	In Hospital				
1	21/9/42	—	Yes	Yes	—	—	—

**Diphtheria.**

There were 37 more notifications than in 1941 but the total—86—is less than the average for the nine preceding years.

The disease was present each month, March, June and October being the worst.

The total of 83 was made up by 54 under 15 years of age and 29 over that age. There were 3 deaths and these children had not been immunised.

**Scarlet Fever.**

These notifications also showed an increase—from 61 to 85. The disease was generally of a mild type, and there were no deaths.

**Enteric Fever.**

One case was reported and proved to be negative.

**Pulmonary Tuberculosis.**

There was again a reduction in the number of cases notified, being 18 as against 22 in 1941.

There were 12 deaths, as against 13 in the previous year. All the deaths occurring in the area had been notified.

**Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.**

These notifications showed an increase of 1 as compared with 1941. There was only 1 death.

**Pneumonia.**

The cases reported showed a good reduction on the numbers for the 2 previous years, 27 as against 39 in 1941 and 43 in 1940. 5 patients were removed to Hospital.

**Cerebro-Spinal Fever.**

This disease was not notified after August, but in the first 8 months of the year there were 11 cases reported. Ten patients were removed to Hospital, the other one being too ill for removal. Of the 10 cases removed to Hospital, 6 proved to be negative.

**Measles.**

With the exception of October the disease was reported each month, but the worst months were January, February and December with 81, 31 and 66 cases respectively, which means that 178 out of the total of 217 occurred in 3 months.

**Whooping Cough.**

Only 3 cases were notified and there were no deaths.

**Influenza.**

Though there were a fair number of cases in the early part of the year, the disease did not assume epidemic form.

## LABORATORY WORK

165 specimens were sent from 1 Enteric Fever, 57 Diphtheria, and 107 Tuberculosis suspects. Of this number 13 Diphtheria and 5 Tuberculosis proved to be positive.

Your Council maintains an adequate supply of Diphtheria Anti-toxin for distribution to medical practitioners in the area.

## PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS, 1925.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. Section 62.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1925. Section 66.

No action was taken in 1942 in any of the above.

## TANFIELD SECTION.

The payments made by the Public Assistance Committee both for Ordinary and Able-bodied Relief, again show a decrease when compared with the figures for the preceding year.

The totals for 1942 were: Ordinary Relief £4,928; Able-bodied Relief £3; a total of £4,931.

For the sake of comparison I append the totals for the last 10 years:—

1942	—	—	£4,931.
1941	—	—	£5,463.
1940	—	—	£9,540.
1939	—	—	£10,753.
1938	—	—	£9,884.
1937	—	—	£8,533.
1936	—	—	£9,436.
1935	—	—	£9,831.
1934	—	—	£9,150.
1933	—	—	£7,908.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

There are two Nursing Associations in the Section, one for each Ward, and their work during 1942 may be thus summarised:

### North Ward.

			Cases attended.	Visits paid.
Midwifery	....	...	53	924
Maternity	....	....	2	34
Medical	...	...	44	1,209
Surgical	...	...	83	1,779
			<hr/> 182	<hr/> 3,946

1 Queen's Nurse is employed.

### South Ward.

Medical...	....	...	56	1,648
Surgical	....	....	130	3,098
			<hr/> 186	<hr/> 4,746

1 Queen's Nurse is employed.

### Hospital Accommodation.

This remained unchanged during the year

### Ambulance Facilities.

No change in 1942.

### Clinics and Treatment Centres.

There was no alteration in these with the exception of the provision of a Scabies Clinic and Treatment Centre at Stanley to serve the whole of the Urban area.



## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives a summary of cases notified, and compares 1942 with the 9 preceding years :

Disease.	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Diphtheria ....	25	21	27	30	110	68	51	103	83	47
Erysipelas ....	12	5	12	4	6	4	7	10	9	11
Scarlet Fever ....	39	26	28	19	40	53	80	72	138	112
Enteric Fever ....	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	8	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum....	4	—	2	1	1	2	2	2	—	2
Puerperal Fever....	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ....	—	1	2	3	2	—	—	2	1	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .	3	8	4	6	9	3	7	3	6	11
Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	4	3	4	8	7	4	9	8	7
Pneumonia ....	13	17	19	5	8	17	12	14	18	18
Cerebro Spinal Fever ....	3	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Dysentery ....	10	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles ....	119	67	292	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ....	4	25	35	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	234	184	427	75	185	156	163	223	266	214

The next table gives the Age Period, etc., for cases notified in 1942 .—

Disease.	Under 1 Year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over	Total	Hospital
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	3	11	—	1	—	25	25
Scarlet Fever ...	—	2	4	3	8	17	2	2	1	—	—	—	39	36
Pneumonia ...	1	2	1	—	—	3	—	—	1	2	2	1	13	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Dysentery ....	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	3	2	—	10	6
Measles ....	3	15	14	25	14	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	119	—
Whooping Cough ....	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Erysipelas ....	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	—	5	1	12	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	3	3
Totals													229	71

## TUBERCULOSIS.

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 Years	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 „	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 „	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
25—35 „	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
35—45 „	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 „	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ....	2	1	2	—	2	2	—	—

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

	CASES.			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	Notified.	Treated.					
		At Home.	In Hospital.				
1	16/5/42	Yes	—	Yes	—	—	—
2	10/8/42	Yes	—	Yes	—	—	—
3	22/10/42	—	Yes	Yes	—	—	—
4	1/12/42	Yes	—	Yes	—	—	—

**Diphtheria.**

The number of cases showed an increase of 4—25 as against 21.

Out of the total of 25 cases reported, 10 were of child age (under 15 years) and of these 10, 4 proved to be negative, making 6 true Diphtheria cases during the year—the same number as in 1941. 3 children had been immunised. There were no deaths.

**Scarlet Fever.**

These notifications showed an increase on the previous year, 39 as against 26, but the disease was of a mild type and there were no deaths.

**Cerebro-Spinal Fever.**

3 cases were reported, and all proved to be negative.

**Pulmonary Tuberculosis.**

3 cases were reported as against 8 in the previous year. There were 4 deaths.

**Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.**

2 cases were notified as compared with 4 in the previous year. There were no deaths.

**Measles.**

There was an increase of cases, 119 as against 67. With the exception of September the disease was present each month, the worst months being January, May, June and December, with 33, 17, 16 and 16 cases respectively.

**Whooping Cough.**

The notifications showed a reduction, from 25 to 4. There were no deaths.

**LABORATORY WORK.**

30 specimens were sent from 9 Diphtheria, and 21 Tuberculosis suspects. Of this number 2 Diphtheria and 1 Tuberculosis proved to be positive.

**PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS, 1925.**

**PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. Section 62.**

**PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. Section 66.**

No action was taken in any of the above during 1942.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

**E. BENSON,**

*Medical Officer of Health.*

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,  
STANLEY.

STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.  
ANNFIELD PLAIN AREA.

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**REPORT**  
OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
**for the Year 1942.**

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June 1943.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL (*Annfield Plain Section*).

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your consideration the following Report upon the Health and General Sanitary condition of your District for the year 1942.

**STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.**

The social and health conditions of the Annfield Plain Area of your District has been quite satisfactory ; with the exception of the usual periodic epidemic of Measles there is nothing to take exception to. The morale and physique of the community, has not, so far, suffered from the restrictions upon food and other matters, they bear their anxieties and restraints with a spirit of confidence and hope that is encouraging and stimulating.

We must not, however, overlook the fact that in the course of time a long and exhausting war tells upon the health of a community, and the possibility, if not the probability, of returning soldiers and sailors carrying the germs of disease, if not actually the disease, contracted in foreign climes into this country, such as we have had after the last great war, and thus causing casualties of a non-combative but devastating enough nature.

**Cost of Relief.**

Statement of Relief disbursed in the Annfield Plain Area for:—

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Ordinary .....	£20,761/14/0	£20,600/12/0	£13,444/13/1	£11,855/11/3	£9,762/19/3
Unemployed .....	£236/5/6	£142/17/0	£168/3/2	£89/12/0	£107/3/3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£20,997/19/6	£20,743/9/0	£13,612/16/3	£11,945/3/3	£9,870/2/6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The amount of Relief disbursed in a year gives one the thought of the social and industrial condition of the District, and it is gratifying to see that last year's figures are lower than in the previous year. There is at present employment for any or all who are physically employable and advantage should be taken of the prosperity of the country while it continues.



## VITAL STATISTICS.

The following statement gives the Vital Statistics for your District :—

	Annfield Plain Area.
Birth-rate .....	12.46
Death-rate .....	10.26
Zymotic death-rate .....	0.13
Small Pox .....	nil.
Scarlet Fever .....	nil.
Diphtheria .....	nil.
Enteric Fever .....	nil.
Measles .....	nil.
Whooping Cough .....	nil.
Diarrhœa (under 2).....	0.13
Phthisis .....	0.20
Influenza .....	nil.
Acute Respiratory diseases .....	1.90
Infantile Mortality-rate .....	69
Maternal Mortality-rate .....	nil.

Birth rate for England and Wales .....	15.8
Death rate for England and Wales .....	11.6
Infant Mortality rate for England and Wales .....	49

Our infant mortality rate as compared with the whole of England, is high. The rate for the whole country is, however, the **lowest on record**.

The birth-rate was also higher for the whole country than it has been since 1931, while ours is low. Our death-rate, however, redeems to some extent the more unsatisfactory rates, as it is lower than that for the whole country.

Causes of Death.								Males	Females
All Causes .....								80	74
1 Tuberculosis of respiratory system .....								3	0
2 Cancer, malignant disease .....								11	9
3 Diabetes .....								0	1
4 Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc. ....								10	8
5 Heart disease .....								10	9
6 Bronchitis .....								5	6
7 Pneumonia (all forms) .....								11	5
8 Peptic ulcer .....								2	0
9 Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years) .....								2	0
10 Acute and Chronic Nephritis .....								6	1
11 Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc. ....								4	6
12 Senility .....								6	15
13 Violence .....								2	4
14 Other defined diseases .....								5	7
15 Causes ill-defined or unknown .....								3	2

36 of the above 154 died in various institutions outside the District.

Births .....	Males	105	Females	82	Total	187	Birth-rate per 1000
Deaths .....	„	80	„	74	„	154	of estimated resident
Infant deaths .....	„	8	„	6	„	14	population
Deaths from Cancer .....	„	11	„	9	„	20	12.46
„ „ Measles .....	„	0	„	0	„	nil	Death-rate per 1000
„ „ Whooping Cough .....	„	0	„	0	„	nil	of estimated resident
„ „ Puerperal Causes .....	„	0	„	0	„	nil	population
							10.26

Vide page 1 for Statistics re the whole area including Live and Still-births, etc.  
The resident population is estimated at 15,000.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES REPORTED DURING THE YEAR, 1942.

Disease						Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	0
Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	7	0
Erysipelas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	0	0
Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	0	16
Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	40	0
Measles	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	211	0	0
Total						285	49	16

There is a reduction in the number of Cerebro-Spinal Fever, while the number of Diphtheria cases notified, as compared with previous years, is much less ; 17 were notified, but 10 proved to be bacteriologically negative.

The District was visited with a sharp and explosive epidemic of Measles, but fortunately it was of a mild character. There were 2 deaths from Broncho-Pneumonia following an attack of measles.

## TUBERCULOSIS, 1942.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
10	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
15	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	1	1
20	1	2	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....
25	1	2	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
35	1	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
45	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
55	.....	.....	.....	1	1	1	.....	.....
65	.....	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....
Totals	3	7	3	2	1	4	2	0
	10		5		5		2	

The nearest dispensary is situated in Stanley, and many patients attend there. Many patients also accept Sanatorium treatment.

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.			Vision Un- impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified.	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
1	1	0	1	0	0	0



### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The following table gives particulars of the specimens sent in by medical practitioners in the district for examination during the year, in accordance with the arrangement made between the County Council and the Durham College of Medicine.

	Number of Specimens Submitted	RESULTS.		
		Positive.	Negative.	Inconclusive
Enteric .....	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria .....	21	3	18	0
Phthisis (sputum) .....	32	3	29	0
Totals .....	53	6	47	0

Bacteriological examination of blood, sputum and excretions of patients is of the greatest value in clearing up the diagnosis of doubtful cases of certain infectious diseases.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is issued to practitioners in the area, if and when application is made to me for a supply.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED PER MONTH FOR 1942.

	Total	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Pneumonia	Cer. Spinal Fever	Whooping Cough	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Tuberculosis	Erysipelas
January .....	36	1	5	25	1	1	0	1	2	0
February .....	14	1	7	2	1	0	1	0	2	0
March .....	17	0	2	11	3	0	0	0	1	0
April .....	16	0	2	12	2	0	0	0	0	0
May .....	21	1	0	15	3	0	0	0	1	1
June .....	46	0	6	35	4	0	0	0	1	0
July .....	33	0	5	21	1	1	0	0	5	0
August .....	7	2	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
September .....	9	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
October .....	14	0	2	10	2	0	0	0	0	0
November .....	65	0	1	61	3	0	0	0	0	0
December .....	23	0	5	16	2	0	0	0	0	0
Total .....	301	7	40	211	23	2	1	1	15	1

From 1st January to 30th June ..... 150 }  
 From 1st July to 31st December ..... 151 } 301

The diseases notified were practically equal during the four seasons : the average per month, for all diseases, being about 25. Were it not for the epidemic of measles the year would be considered a satisfactorily healthy year. The measles epidemic has now about spent itself.

### ANALYSIS OF THE TOTAL CASES UNDER ALL GROUPS.

Disease.	Total	Under 1 year	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45 & Over
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria .....	17	—	1	1	—	—	4	3	3	4	1
Erysipelas .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles .....	211	16	29	34	28	43	50	7	3	1	—
Pneumonia .....	23	1	3	1	1	1	2	—	3	3	8
Scarlet Fever .....	40	—	—	7	8	6	15	3	1	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total .....	296	17	35	44	37	50	71	13	10	8	11

The above figures are those cases actually notified, but a more careful diagnosis in Hospital discounted ten Diphtherias and one of Cerebro-Spinal Fever. The actual cases, therefore, were 7 Diphtheria and 2 Cerebro-Spinal Fever.



**IMMUNISATION.**

During the year 421 immunisations were completed. Of these 155 were children under 5 years, the remaining numbers were over 5 but under 15. With few exceptions the parents are anxious to have their children immunised, and they come of their own accord, and the persuasion of the local nurses, to have it done.

The number of **immunised** children in England and Wales who died from Diphtheria during 1942 was 41, as compared with 1,473 deaths among non-immunised children.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. M. MORISON, D.P.H.



**REPORT**  
OF THE  
**CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR**  
**for the Year 1942.**

**STAFF.**

Chief Sanitary Inspector .....	K. Elliott, M.S.I.A., C.R.SAN.I., Certificated Meat and Foods Inspector.
District Inspectors .....	S. L. Hetherington, M.S.I.A., C.R.SAN.I., Cer- tificated Meat and Foods Inspector. J. Walker, M.S.I.A., C.R.SAN.I., Certificated Meat and Foods Inspector.

I herewith submit the Annual Report for work done in the Sanitary Department during the Year :

**HOUSING ACTS.**

**Repairs and Improvements :** Repair of house property has been fairly well maintained con- sidering the shortage of certain materials during the present war emergency.

**Slum Clearance :** All building programmes have unfortunately been abandoned during the war with the result that certain houses scheduled for demolition have become uninhabitable. The tenants have been re-housed where possible in Council houses and otherwise in private dwellings.

**Overcrowding :** There is still considerable overcrowding in the area and the position has been aggravated by the influx of evacuees from blitzed towns and also, by the compulsory return of miners to local collieries.

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS.**

The following is a summary of notices served under the various headings :—

	No. of Nuisances or de- fects dealt with by In- formal Notices.	No. of Nuisances or de- fects dealt with by Formal Notices by Order of the Council.	No. of Nuisances or de- fects abated or remedied after service of Notices.
Dwelling-houses :			
Foul conditions .....	15	—	15
Structural defects .....	434	67	363
Drainage :			
Choked Drains .....	83	—	82
Defective Traps .....	26	—	17
Other Faults .....	22	—	20
Defective ashbins .....	80	—	32
Defective water-closets .....	82	—	61
Defective ashpits .....	23	—	18
Defective water supply .....	19	—	14
Defective yard surfaces .....	13	—	7
Deposits of Refuse .....	5	—	5
Animals improperly kept— .....	7	—	7
Totals .....	809	67	641



## ANALYSIS OF INSPECTIONS, 1942.

Housing Defects	—Inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	575
	—Re-Inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,104
	—Overcrowding	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
	—Foul Conditions	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	282
Slaughter Houses		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	364
Foodstuffs		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	209
Factories and Workshops		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	63
Drainage		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	117
Water-closets		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
Privy Conversions		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Ashpits		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Water Supply		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Offensive Trades		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
Deposits of Refuse		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Animals Improperly Kept		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
Lodging Houses		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
Miscellaneous		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	189
Infectious Diseases		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	325
Scabies		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	177
Diphtheria Immunisation		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
TOTAL OF INSPECTIONS							3,578

## SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

During the year 2 privies was converted into water-closets.

The number of privies converted into water-closets since 1931 is as follows :—

1931	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	151	
1932	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	155	
1933	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,664	(Includes Scheme for 1,460).
1934	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	250	
1935	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	142	
1936	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	230	
1937	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	103	
1938	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47	
1939	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	471	(Part Scheme for 1,295.)
1940	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	
1941	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	
1942	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	
TOTAL						3,219	

The following are the types of conveniences in the area :—

Water-closets	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,929
Privies	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,412
Dry Ashpits	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,915
Ashbins	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,533

The general scheme for the conversion of privies has been abandoned until after the war.

## REFUSE COLLECTION.

House refuse is collected from 6,327 ashpits weekly, and 6,533 ashbins twice weekly, together with trade refuse from 108 shops, etc., necessitating a total of 19,609 visits each week.

The estimated amount of refuse is approximately 40,000 tons per annum.

The refuse is abnormally heavy and peculiar to a colliery district where the coal, supplied free to the miners, besides being small and dusty contains a certain amount of stone.

The refuse has to be transported over steep gradients and each vehicle, with a capacity of 8 cubic yards, contains at least 3 tons nett of refuse, which represents the contents from an average of 40 ashpits or correspondingly 80 ashbins.

The total annual cost of collection and disposal for the year was £11,913. The weighty refuse gives a low rate of 5/11d. per ton and an equivalent rate in the pound of 17d. The average weight of refuse per 1,000 population per day is 43 cwts., and the nett cost per 1,000 population is £238.

## SALVAGE.

House to house collection is carried out each week when collecting house refuse by the use of trailers fitted to each refuse vehicle.

Frequent canvas is undertaken by the Salvage Stewards appointed in each district.

The following articles of salvage were collected and sold during the year :—

263 Tons	.....	Paper.
84 Tons	.....	Metals
4 Tons	.....	Rubber.
82½ Cwt.	.....	Rags.
56¾ Cwt.	.....	Bones.
91 Gross	.....	Bottles and Jars.

## PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS.

There is one Common Lodging House situated at Flint Hill, Dipton, which is regularly inspected.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the year 11 Council and 33 private houses were found to be infested with bed bugs. The Council houses were disinfested by the Local Authority and the private houses by the occupiers.

The method of disinfestation was by spraying with insecticides followed by fumigation. Where necessary the infested woodwork—such as picture-rails and skirting boards—was removed and destroyed. The occupiers were then instructed to thoroughly cleanse the houses by washing down with soap and water. Frequent inspections were made and advice given to the occupiers until the premises were found to be free from vermin.

## SCABIES.

A scheme for the treatment of Scabies was commenced in April, 1942, and a Clinic was established at the A.R.P. Civil Cleansing Centre at which baths were provided.

The local general practitioners were invited to co-operate in the scheme by sending to the clinic any cases which had not satisfactory means of home treatment.

All known cases were visited for possible contacts and arrangements made for examination at the clinic by the Council's Medical Officers of Health.

All cases diagnosed for local treatment received baths and then treated with Benzol Benzoate on two successive days. This treatment proved very effective and very few return cases were reported—any very bad cases were sent for hospital treatment—672 persons received treatment up to the end of December, 1942.

It was realized that the disease was still very widespread and that notification was necessary in order that the Council would be aware of all existing cases.

The Council applied for and received approval from the Ministry of Health to make an Order applying the provisions of Part V of the Public Health Act, 1936, which came into force on the 19th February, 1943.

## MILK SUPPLY.

The following were on the Register at the end of the year :—

'49 Cowkeepers.
85 Dairies.
84 Retail Purveyors of Milk.
1 Pasteurised (Licence).
14 Accredited Producers.
51 Retail Purveyors of Milk (Bottled).

All the Cowsheds and Dairies were frequently inspected. The general hygiene in the byres and dairies was well maintained during the year.

## MILK SAMPLES.

82 Samples of Ordinary Milk and 15 Samples of Pasteurised Milk were submitted for bacteriological examination.

7 Samples of Pasteurised Milk and 19 Samples of Ordinary Milk were found to be unsatisfactory.

Out of the 19 Samples of Ordinary Milk which were below standard, 16 of these were from bulk supplies delivered to the local pasteurisation dairy. As these supplies are still unsatisfactory, the matter has been referred to the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Food, with the object of effecting an improvement before despatch of the milk from the supply depot.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Owing to the war, the slaughter of food animals is done at a central depot outside the district and the meat is brought into three Distribution Depots and inspected prior to allocation to the butchers.

In addition, 141 Pigs were slaughtered in the district by pig keepers, under special permit from the Ministry of Food.

During the year the following articles of food were found to be unfit for human consumption and destroyed :—

285 lbs. Beef.	58 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. Cheese.
12 Oxtails.	31 lbs. Bacon.
18 Ox Livers.	590 tins Milk.
18 Ox Heads.	54 tins Corned Beef.
18 Ox Tongues.	7 tins Tongue.
3 Ox Lungs.	39 tins Sausage Meat.
2 Ox Hearts.	29 tins Steak.
492 lbs. Mutton.	2 tins Corned Pork.
20 Sheep's Heads.	117 tins Luncheon Meat.
28 Sheep's Plucks.	58 tins Chopped Ham.
225 lbs. Sausage.	2 tins Rabbit.
190 Meat Pies.	75 tins of Fruit.
105 Bags Cabbages	123 tins Tomatoes.
8500 lbs. Onions.	77 tins Vegetables.
87 lbs. Sugar.	61 tins Fish.
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ st. Fish.	12 tins Soup.
440 st. Potatoes.	1 Sponge Pudding.
316 st. Carrots.	4 lbs. Tea.
28 lbs. Peas.	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ doz. Eggs.

In conclusion I wish to express my thanks for the consideration and support of the Council and members of the Staff.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

K. ELLIOTT,

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.





